ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

A. C. Beckham

MINUTES

OF THE

THIRTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Warrior River Baptist Association

HELD WITH

Liberty Baptist Church, Blount County, Ala.

October 12th, 13th, 14th and 15th, 1893.

OFFICERS.

Elder A. DORMAN, MODERATOR.....Mclarty, Ala.
J. B. TIDWELL, SECRETARY.....Walnut Grove, Ala.
I. T. STEPHENS, TREASURER.....Blountsville, Ala.

The next session will be held with Friendship Baptist Church, on Friday before the 3rd Sunday in October, 1894.

MONTGOMERY, ALA.:
EXCELSIOR PRINTING CO., PRINTERS.
1893.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Read letters.
2. Elect officers.
3. Call for correspondence.
4. Call for petitionary letters.
5. Appoint committees—
    (1) On devotion.
    (2) On deceased ministers.
    (3) On Sabbath schools.
    (4) On nominations.
    (5) On missions.
    (6) On temperance.
    (7) On education.
    (8) On ministerial education.
    (9) On finance.
6. Appoint correspondents to sister associations.
7. Appoint messengers to State and Southern Baptist Convention.
8. Call for report of executive committee.
9. Call for report of missionary.
10. Call for report of committees.
11. Call for report of treasurer.
12. Provide for printing minutes.
13. Elect executive committee.
14. Miscellaneous business.
15. Adjourn.

MINUTES.

The Warrior River Baptist Association convened in its thirty-fifth annual session with Liberty Baptist Church on Thursday, October 12, 1893.

The introductory sermon was preached by Eld. H. W. Head from the text: We are laborers together with God, 1st Cor. 3:9.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

After prayer by Eld. W. M. Cole, the body was called to order by the Moderator, A. Dorman, and Bro. I. T. Stephens was elected Clerk protem. Brethren W. M. Cole, P. G. Alldredge and O. A. Steele were appointed as reading clerks, who read the letters from the various churches.

The following churches, together with their messengers were enrolled:

Antioch—J. W. Pate. Rufus Alldredge and L. C. Dempsy.
Austin Creek—D. M. Fowler, E. M. Bowerman and G. E. Pass.
Bethel—Eld. Jesse Brown, Eld. H. G. B. Bynum and R. H. Holmes.
Big Warrior—J. R. Marsh.
Blountsville—I. T. Stephens, John Hyatt, C. Turner, Elders W. M. Cole and H. W. Head.
Brooksville—P. G. Alldredge, J. W. Johnes and L. H. Pettit.
Dry Creek—Dissolved.
Friendship—V. B. Hunt, C. S. Plunket and B. T. Finny.
Guin's Cove—J. F. Musgrove.
Harmony—Eld. J. A. May, W. L. Ellison, F. T. Ellison and J. K. Nix.
Holly Pond—J. M. Daniels, and Jeff. Hazlewood.
Liberty—F. G. Donehoo, H. E. Mitchell, James Carnes, G. B. Stephens, P. B. Mitchell and P. W. Hitt.
Liberty Hill—D. H. Campbell, J. W. Bryan, W. T. Kelly and E. M. Cox.
Macedonia—Y. B. Rhodes and W. B. Lowery.
Mt. Carmel—L. T. Murphee and James Tidwell.
Mt. Pisgah—J. B. Alexandria and J. T. Blalock.
Mt. Pleasant—John W. Green, W. F. Ray and J. B. Godard.
Mt. Tabor—W. J. Copeland and Joshua Ratliff.
Mulberry—R. J. Davis.
New Prospect—Joe Johnson and R. A. Allison.
Oneonta—Dissolved.
Oak Grove—J. C. Walker, Wyley Laningham, A. A. Pannell and J. H. Pannell.
Pine Grove—J. W. Crumbley, A. J. Griffin, T. A. Hancock and G. T. Daily.
Pine Bluff—G. T. Adams, W. W. Conway and J. L. Rutherford.
Sardis—Mark Taylor and W. J. Morgan.

An invitation was extended to visiting ministers and brethren. The following accepted the invitation and were admitted to seats in the body and granted the courtesies of the floor, viz:

From Tennessee River Association—Eld. S. O. Howard.

From Cahaba Association—Eld. J. A. Glenn.

From Cullman Association—J. L. Patterson.

The election of permanent officers was then ordered, which resulted in the choice of Eld. A. Dorman, Moderator; J. B. Tidwell, Clerk, and I. T. Stephens, Assistant Clerk and Treasurer.

Called for petitionary churches and received newly organized churches as follows:

Chepultepec.
New Harmony No. 1.
New Harmony No. 2.

The Moderator, in behalf of the body, then extended the right hand of fellowship to the messengers of the several churches, viz:

Chepultepec—Francis Allgood and W. M. Cornelius.
New Harmony No. 1—A. J. Sims and W. D. Black.
New Harmony No. 2—J. M. Pass and G. P. Kelly.

The following brethren were appointed a committee on devotional exercises, to-wit: W. L. Ellison and Joshua Ratliff, together with the deacon and elders of Liberty church.

Appointed correspondents to sister associations as follows:

Cullman—W. H. Absher and J. M. Daniel.
Cahaba—(Meets at Pisgah church Second Sunday in September, 1894,) F. M. Allgood.
Etowah—(Meets at Fairview, Friday after first Sunday in September, 1894,) Eld. J. A. May and T. A. Hancock.

Appointed Eld. Francis Tidwell to visit our State Convention, and collected $5.05 toward paying his expenses (meets at Greenville first Sunday in November, 1893.)

Committee on devotion announces that Eld. Francis Tidwell would preach at night, and J. A. Glenn, Friday at 11 a. m.

Adjourned until Friday morning at 9 o'clock.

SECOND DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

Friday, Oct. 13, 9 a. m.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment.

Prayer by Eld. S. O. Howard.

Renewed the call for visiting brethren. Received none.

On motion, the appointment of other correspondents was postponed.

Appointed committees as follows:

On Deceased Ministers—J. C. Chambers, E. M. Bowerman, and R. H. Holmes.
On Sabbath Schools—H. W. Head, J. W. Crumbley and J. W. Pate.
On Nominations—I. T. Stephens, F. G. Donehoo and P. G. Alldredge.
On Missions—Eld. J. A. May, M. Absher and Jesse Brown.
On Temperance—Eld. Francis Tidwell, J. C. Buckner, and T. A. Hancock.
On Education—P. G. Alldredge, L. H. Pettit and C. Turner.
On Finance—W. L. Ellison, John W. Green and Joseph Johnson.
On State of Religion—Eld. Jesse Brown, F. M. Allgood and E. P. Patterson.
On Prayer Meetings—T. A. Hancock, J. M. Pass and J. H. Pannell.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Prayer by Eld. W. H. Absher.

Resolved, That we advise our churches and ministers to proceed very cautiously in the matter of organizing new churches and ordaining ministers, to the end that we have no more weak churches that are unable to sustain a pastor or build a suitable house for worship, and that the ministry may, in the future, be raised to a higher grade by ordaining only such men as give fair promise of special adaptation to the work.

Received and adopted.

On motion, regular order of business was suspended, and renewed the call for correspondence from sister associations, and enrolled Brethren William Culbertson and O. Q. Norton of the Etowah.

Read and adopted report of committee as follows:

We your Committee on Education beg leave to make the following report:

That we have considered the subject as well as limited time would allow, and are pleased to state that so far as we have been able to ascertain, our denomination is fully abreast with the spirit of education, and we most earnestly insist that our brethren relax none of their former energy on this subject, but redouble their effort in this

direction; that our children may take their station in the affairs of the church and state as high as the peers of any other people.

We also again take pleasure in recommending our own Howard College for the higher education of our boys, and the Judson Female Institute as every way worthy of the patronage of our people in the education of our girls. We also recommend Walnut Grove and Blount College as being points of special interest to us as a people, and urge our people to make all reasonable sacrifices in order to sustain those institutions of learning which are in our midst.

Respectfully,

P. G. ALLDRIDGE,
Chairman.

Read and adopted report of committee on deceased ministers, as follows:

We your Committee on Deceased Ministers submit the following: We find on examination that the lives of all our ministers have been spared except Eld. J. M. Fields, who has been a faithful laborer in the cause for many years. Sound in the doctrine of the Bible; like Paul ever contending for the faith once delivered to the saints, although he has been taken away from us to rest from his labor, we trust his works will follow him.

Respectfully submitted,

J. C. CHAMBERS,
Chairman.

Read and adopted report of committee on State of Religion as follows:

We your Committee on State of Religion beg leave to make the following report:

Brethren you know the State of Religion has been at a very low ebb, but from reports in the letters of the various churches, we are made to think that the state of religion is on a higher plane now than it has been for several years past, and we hope that God will carry on his good work over all opposition, and this depends very greatly on our ministry's declaring the whole truth, and we pray that the spirit of God will direct them and the churches in all their work.

Respectfully,

JESSE BROWN,
Chairman.

Called for and adopted report of committee on Prayer Meetings as follows:

We find from the letters of the various churches that only six of our churches have a regular prayer meeting. Such as have a prayer meeting have enjoyed a great ingathering.

We urge the brethren to give this branch of church work more attention, that the cause may be more prosperous. We think every christian should aid in the work of the prayer meeting, and prove his faith by their works.

We also believe that a church without a prayer meeting will not

prosper as it would should that church use greater zeal and sustain a prayer meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

T. A. Hancock,
Chairman.

Adjourned until Saturday morning at 9 o'clock.

THIRD DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

Saturday Oct. 14th.

Association met pursuant to adjournment.

Prayer by Eld. Jesse Brown.

Called for read and adopted report of committee on Temperance as follows:

Your Committee on Temperance would submit the following:
We believe the evils of intemperance are plainly before the eyes of all intelligent people, and we think the time is very near when the evil will be removed from our land. It is a great evil which our churches must battle against, but we believe it is giving way before the light of the truth, and the time has come when every Baptist should make a bold stand on the side of temperance, and should unanimously rise against this invader which is burying hundreds of our race annually, and filling our land with widows and orphans. Brethren may the Lord help us to persuade men to live soberly.

Respectfully submitted,

F. Tidwell,
Chairman.

On motion, all speeches were limited to five minutes each.

Called for read and adopted report of Executive Committee as follows:

We your Executive Committee beg leave to report as follows:
We met at Antioch church Dec. 17th, 1892. After discussing the mission cause, we decided to ask ten cents per member for missions, one-fourth to be used as foreign missions, and three-fourths in our own association.
We notified the churches what we had done, but have received only $8.02, which we paid to A. Dorman for services done last year, we are still

Due Bro. A. Dorman	$ 21 00
" " J. C. Chambers	3 00
" " J. C. Buckner	4 00

For want of funds we have had no work done this year. Dear brethren let us not be discouraged on account of our failures and mistakes in the past, but let us do better in the future.

Respectfully submitted,

I. T. Stephens,
Sec'y.

On motion, the regular order of business was suspended, and the call was renewed for visiting brethren. received Eld. W. Y. Adams of the Etowah association.

Read and adopted a resolution as follows:

Resolved, that the Executive Board are hereafter required to employ pastors to attend weak churches in our bounds instead of pursuing the plan hitherto pursued in employing men to work by the day during a few weeks in mid-summer. To the end that our efforts in the future may be exerted in building on the ground already occupied.

P. G. Alldredge.

Afternoon Session.

Prayer by Rev. J. M. Daniels.

On motion, the regular limit of five minutes for speeches, was suspended, and speakers allowed ten minutes on the subject of missions.

Read and adopted report of committee on Missions as follows:

We your Committee on Missions beg time. We in the first place are unprepared to make an intelligent report owing to the shortness of time we have had to look after the work; second, we deem the work to be of too much importance to pass without due consideration, and without giving to the brethren its points of importance. We hope the time has come when the churches and preachers of this Association will arouse a greater interest in the cause of missions in the future than they have had in the past.

Respectfully submitted,

J. A. May,
Chairman.

A collection was taken for Foreign Missions which amounted to $5.65.

Called for, read and adopted report of committee on Nominations as follows:

We your Committee on Nominations beg leave to recommend Friendship church as the place for our next meeting, and Friday before the third Sunday in Oct. 1894, as the time of meeting. We also recommend Eld. Francis Tidwell to preach the next introductory sermon, and Eld. W. M. Cole, to preach the next missionary sermon, also Eld. J. A. May as delegate to the next meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, which meets in Dallas, Texas, on the 12th of May, 1894, (Dr. H. E. Mitchell, alternate). We also recommend brethren A. J. Whitly, Joshua Ratleff, J. W. Pate, P. B. Mitchell and Y. B. Rhodes as the executive board.

Respectfully submitted,

P. G. Alldredge,
Chairman.

Called for and read report of committee on Sabbath Schools.

On motion, the adoption was postponed until Sunday morning at 9 o'clock and appointed Eld. W. Y. Adams and others to discuss the subject.

Called for, read and adopted report of Finance Committee as follows:

We your Committee on Finance wish to report that we have received the sum of $62.19 for the following purposes, and divided as below:

Churches.	Minutes.	State Missions.	Foreign Missions
Antioch	$ 1 50		
Austin Creek	1 00	$ 3 75	$ 1 25
Bethel	55		
Big Warrior	50		
Blountsville	1 25	2 40	1 00
Brooksville	85		
Friendship	1 25		2 00
Guins Cove	50		
Harmony	1 40	1 75	1 50
Holly Pond	1 65	85	
Liberty	2 05	2 59	2 00
Liberty Hill	1 15		
Macedonia	90		
Mt. Carmel	1 10		
Mt. Pleasant	1 00		
Mt. Pisgah	1 00		
Mt. Tabor	1 50	1 75	1 00
Mulberry	1 00	2 50	
New Prospect	75		
Oneonta		90	
Oak Grove	1 00		
Pine Grove	1 50		
Pine Bluff	70	2 00	
Sardice	65	1 00	1 00
Chepultepec	1 00		
New Harmony No. 1	40		
New Harmony No. 2	1 00		
Total	$27 15	$20 24	$ 9 75

To Eld. F. Tidwell by collection $5.05, total $62.19. All of which has been paid to the Treasurer for which he receipted us.

Respectfully submitted,

W. L. Ellison,
Chairman.

On motion, the regular order of business was suspended and a general collection made for supplement to minute fund which resulted in a collection of $2.05.

Called for Treasurer's report. Treasurer not present and no report submitted.

On motion, the Clerk was allowed $10.00 for his services in superintending the printing and distribution of the minutes, and that he be instructed to prorate the minutes to the churches according to their several contributions, and to have as many printed (inserting the articles of faith and the constitution) as the funds will allow.

On motion, it was ordered that the committees on Education, Missions, Sunday Schools, Temperance and Ministerial Education, that were appointed at this meeting be continued another year with instructions to report on the first day of our next meeting.

On motion, a committee of three was appointed to draft a condensed history of the life of our beloved brother, Eld. J. M. Fields (deceased) and submit it at our next meeting, and we ask the churches to send more minute money to pay for its publication in our next minute and the Alabama Baptist. Appointed committee viz., Joshua Ratliff, P. G. Alldredge and W. L. Ellison.

On motion, a warrant was issued on the Treasurer to pay the entire indebtedness of the Association to be paid with the State Mission Funds.

Resolved, that we as an association return our sincere thanks to brethren and friends of this church and settlement for their hospitality so heartily extended to this body during our stay here, and pray God's richest blessings to rest upon them.

The minutes were read and approved, and the body adjourned until Sunday morning at 9 o'clock.

FOURTH DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

Sunday 9 a. m.

Association met pursuant to adjournment.

Prayer by Eld. J. A. May. Called to order and resumed the discussion of the report on Sabbath Schools by Elds. W. Y. Adams and S. O. Howard.

Adopted Sabbath school report as follows:

We your Committee on Sabbath schools submit the following report:

By reference to the various church letters, we find that out of the twenty-seven churches reported only nine have a Sabbath school. Now while this is a better showing than we have had before, it is still not what it should be. We contend that every church ought to have a Sabbath school. We think the pastors can overcome this failure if they will. Just think of it—eighteen of the twenty-seven churches without a Sabbath school, and thus depriving at least one thousand children of that early instruction, which is so necessary in the forming of christian character.

Let us hope that at our next session every church in this Association will report a good Sabbath school.

Respectfully submitted,

W. W. Head,
Chairman.

The missionary sermon was then preached by Eld. J. A. May, text, Matthew 28, 18, 19, 20 and 21, after which a collection was taken for missions which amounted to $5.35. The Association then adjourned to meet again at Friendship Baptist Church, on Friday before the 3rd Sunday in October, 1894.

Allen Dorman, Moderator.

J. B. Tidwell, Clerk.

Union meetings were appointed as follows: For the 1st Dist., at New Harmony No. 2. P. O. (Cleveland) Friday before the 5th Sunday in July, 1894.

For 2nd Dist., at Bethel Baptist Church, Friday before the 2nd Sunday in August, 1894.

CONSTITUTION OF THE WARRIOR RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

1. This Association shall be composed of members chosen by the different churches in the union and also of all ordained ministers, who are in good standing in their own churches; provided such churches are members of this Association, and shall be known as the Warrior River Baptist Association.

2. Each church shall send a letter to the Association by its messengers, giving the number baptised, received and dismissed by letter, excluded, restored or died during the associational year, total membership in fellowship, time of monthly meeting together with the contributions for minutes and other purposes.

3. This Association shall be considered merely an advisory council, claiming no authority over the rights and privileges of the individual

churches, nor constituting itself an eclesiastical court to sit in judgment on church difficulties. It is agreed, however that this association may appoint a committee of the body for the purpose of reconciling church difficulties, provided such interference is asked by such confused church, or part of a church, and it is further agreed that the Association shall have the right to withdraw fellowship from any church that departs from the faith and order of the Gospel.

4. Each church shall be entitled to send three messengers to this Association, and one additional messenger for every twenty-five after the first fifty members; and should any church fail to represent herself, she shall state the reason for such failure in her next letter to the Association.

5. Any baptist church may be admitted into the Association by sending a petitionary letter and messengers. If upon investigation she is found orthodox and orderly, the Moderator shall extend her messengers the right hand of fellowship.

6. The Association shall elect, annually, from the body a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer. The Moderator shall preside over the deliberations, preserve order, and see that the rules of decorum are faithfully carried out by the members, decide all questions of order without debate, subject to an appeal to the body, and give the casting vote when the Association is equally divided. The Clerk shall faithfully record all the proceedings of the body and superintend the publication and distribution of the minutes among the churches.

7. This Association may adopt a plan for raising funds by voluntary contributions to defray the expenses of the Association, for supplying destitute churches and settlements in her bounds, with the preaching of the gospel, and for any other purpose which she shall deem proper, leaving every church member free to contribute as he shall purpose in his heart. All funds raised thus shall be placed in the hands of the Treasurer, who shall be accountable for the same to the Association, and shall disburse it as the Association may direct.

8. This Association adopts the declaration of faith as published in Pendleton's Church Manual, and Mell's Parlimentary Practice Manual as its exponent of parlimentary law.

9. All questions shall be decided by a majority vote, except in case of an alteration of, or amendment to, this constitution.

10. This Association shall elect annually one of her members to preach the introductory sermon, and one to preach on the subject of missions.

11. The minutes shall be read and approved by the body, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the Association adjourns.

12. This constitution may be altered or amended by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members present, provided the alteration or amendment has been proposed at the previous meeting of the Association.

R. M. Holmes,
W. B. Saunders,
P. G. Alldredge,
Committee on Revision of Constitution.

DECLARATION OF FAITH. (Pendleton.)

I. Of the Scriptures.

We believe that the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired, and is a perfect treasure of heavenly instructions; that it has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth without any mixture of error for its matter; that it reveals the principles by which God will judge us; and therefore is, and shall remain to the end of the world, the true centre of christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds and opinions shall be tried.

II. Of the True God.

We believe that there is one, and only one living and true God, an infinite, intelligent Spirit, whose name is Jehovah, the Maker and supreme Ruler of Heaven and Earth; inexpressibly glorious in holiness, and worthy of all possible honor, confidence and love; that in the unity of the Godhead there are three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; equal in every divine perfection, and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.

III. Of the Fall of Man.

We believe that man was created in holiness, under the law of his Maker; but by voluntary transgression fell from that holy and happy state; in consequence of which, all mankind are now sinners, not by constraint but choice; being by nature utterly void of that holiness required by the law of God, positively inclined to evil; and therefore under just condemnation to eternal ruin, without defense or choice

IV. Of the Way of Salvation.

We belive that the salvation of sinners is wholy of grace, through the Mediatorial offices of the Son of God; who by the appointment of the Father, freely took upon him our nature, yet without sin; honored the divine law by his personal obedience, and by his death made a full atonement for our sins; that having risen from the dead, he is now enthroned in heaven and uniting in his wonderful person the tenderest sympathies with divine perfections, he is every way qualified to be a suitable, a compassionate, and an all-sufficient Savior.

V. Of Justification.

We believe that the great Gospel blessing which Christ secures to such as believe in him is justification, that justification includes the pardon of sin, and the promise of eternal life on principles of righteousness; that it is bestowed, not in consideration of any works of righteousness which we have done, but solely through faith in the Redeemer's blood; by virtue of which faith his perfect righteousness is freely imputed to us of God; that it brings us into a state of most blessed peace and favor with God, and secures every other blessing needful for time and eternity.

VI. Of the Freeness of Salvation.

We believe that the blessings of Salvation are made free to all by the Gospel; that it is the immediate duty of all to accept them by a cordial penitent and obedient faith; and that nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth, but his own inherent depravity and voluntary rejection of the Gospel; which rejection involves him in an aggravated condemnation.

VII. Of Grace in Regeneration.

We believe that in order to be saved, sinners must be regenerated, or born again; that regeneration consists in giving a holy disposition to the mind; that is effected in a manner above our comprehension by the power of the Holy Spirit, in connection with divine truth, so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the Gospel; and that its proper evidence appears in the holy fruits of repentance, and faith, and newness of life.

VIII. Of Repentance and Faith.

We believe that repentance and faith are sacred duties and also inseparable graces, wrought in our souls by the regenerating Spirit of God; whereby being deeply convinced of our guilt, danger and helplessness, and of the way of salvation by Christ, we turn to God with unfeigned contrition, confession, and supplication for mercy; at the same time heartily receiving the Lord Jesus Christ as our prophet, priest and king, and relying on him alone as the only and all-sufficient Savior.

IX. Of God's Purpose of Grace.

We believe that election is the eternal purpose of God, according to which he graciously regenerates, sanctifies and saves sinners; that being perfectly consistent with the free agency of man it comprehends all the means in connection with the end; that it is a glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, being infinitely free, wise, holy and unchangeable; that it utterly excludes boasting, and promotes humility, love, prayer, praise, trnst in God, and active immitation of his free mercy; that it encourages the use of means in the highest degree; that it may be ascertained by its effects in all who truly believe the Gospel; that it is the foundation of christian assurance; and that to ascertain it with regard to ourselves demands and deserves the utmost diligence.

X. Of Sanctification.

We believe that sanctification is the process by which, according to the will of God, we are made partakers of his holiness; that it is a progressive work; that it is begun in regeneration; and that it is carried on in the hearts of believers by the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, the Sealer and Comforter, in the continual use of the appointed means—especially the word of God, self-examination, self-denial, watchfulness and prayer.

XI. Of the Perseverance of Saints.

We believe that such only are believers as endure unto the end; that thier persevering attachment to Christ is the grand mark which distinguishes them from superficial professors; that a special providence watches over their welfare; and they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

XII. Of the Harmony of the Law and the Gospel.

We believe that the law of God is the eternal and unchangeable rule of his moral government; that it is holy, just, and good; and that the inability which the scriptures ascribes to fallen man to fulfill its precepts, arises entirely from their love to sin; to deliver them from which, and to restore them through a mediator to unfeigned obedience to the holy law, is one great end of the Gospel, and of the means of grace connected with the establishment of the visible church.

XIII. Of A Gospel Church.

We believe that a visible church of Christ is a congregation of baptized believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the Gospel; observing the ordinances of Christ; governed by his laws; and exercising the gifts, rights, and privileges invested in them by his work; that its only scriptural officers are bishops or pastors and deacons, whose qualifications, claims and duties are defined in the epistles to Timothy and Titus.

XIV. Of Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

We believe that christian baptism is immersion in water of a believer, into the name of the Father, and Son, and Holy Ghost; to show forth in a solemn and beautiful emblem, our faith in the crucified, buried and risen Savior, with its effect, in our death to sin and resursection to a new life; that it is pre-requisite to the privilege of a church relation; and to the Lord's Supper, in which the members of the church by the sacred use of bread and wine, are to commemorate together the dying love of Christ; preceded always by solemn self-examination.

XV. Of the Christian Sabbath.

We believe that the first day of the week is the Lord's day, or christian Sabbath; and is to be kept sacred to religious purposes, by abstaining from all secular labor and sinful recreations; by the devout observance of all the means of grace, both private and public; and by preparation for that rest that remaineth for the people of God.

XVI. Of Civil Government.

We believe that civil government is of divine appointment, for the interest of good order of human society; and that magistrates are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored and obeyed; except only in things opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the only Lord of conscience, and the prince of the kings of the earth.

XVII. Of the Righteous and Wicked.

We believe that there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous and the wicked; that such only as through faith are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and sanctified by the spirit of our God, are truly righteous in his esteem; while all such as continue in impenitence and unbelief are in his sight wicked and under the curse; and this distinction holds among men both in and after death.

XVIII. Of the World to Come.

We believe that the end of this world is approaching; that at the last day, Christ will descend from heaven and raise the dead from grave to final retribution; that a solemn separation will tnen take place; that the wicked will be adjudged to endless punishment, and the righteous to endless joy; and that this judgment will fix forever the final state of men in heaven or in hell, on principles of righteousness.

STATISTICS OF THE WARRIOR RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

Churches.	Pastors.	Clerks.	Clerks P. O.	Membership last reported.	Increased by				Decreased by			Present membership.	Preaching Sun.
					Baptism.	Letter.	Experience.	Restoration.	Letters.	Exclusion.	Death.		
Antioch	F. Tidwell	W. D. Hyatt	Liberty	99	..	...	.	1	7	...	2	91	3
Austin Creek	J. P. Smith	W. P. Howard	Joy	103	8	5	..	3	24	4	2	89	1
Bethel	Jesse Brown	R. L. Beshears	Snead	45	4	6	.	1	3	....	...	53	1
Big Warrior	E. M. Bowerman	R. H. Harden	Tidmore	13	..	1	..	..	..	1	.	13	3
Blountsville	H. W. Head	C. Turner	Blountsville	63	2	2	..	1	9	3	2	52	2
Brooksville	F. Tidwell	P. G. Alldredge	Brooksville	37	4	..	..	..	5	2	...	34	4
Friendship	Sherman Horton	W. A. Carrell	Friendship	92	8	12	..	1	12	2	1	98	3
Harmony	J. A. May	W. L. Ellison	Walnut Grove	118	7	..			9	....	1	15	1
Holly Pond	P. R. Tennison	Lee Wats	Holly Pond	79	..	13		1	17	8	3	65	3
Liberty	J. A. May	E. O. Dean	Oneonta	133	11	12		2	27	4	..	127	2
Liberty Hill	J. W. Crumbley	E. W. Cox	Royal	100	15	7	..	7	....	....	2	127	2
Macedonia	A. Dorman	A. J. Mclarty	Mclarty	89	...	...			1	1	...	87	2
Mt. Carmel	J. C. Buckner	L. T. Murphree	Champion	74	3	1			5	1	1	71	1
Mt. Pisgah	J. W. Crumbley	John Nix	Nix	46	5	4			...	1	...	54	3
Mt. Pleasant	J. W. Crumbley	John W. Green	Clearance	47	....	..	..		..	....	..		1
Mt. Tabor	E. M. Bowerman	J. C. Ratliff	Gumspring	85	..	4	4	..	2	....	...	91	4
Mulberry	W. H. Absher	E. P. Dodd	Carl	32	5	....	.	..	1	1	1	34	1
New Prospect	A. Dorman	Larkins Bales	Brooksville	36	4	3	..	..	....	..	..	43	3
Oak Grove	W. C. Chambers	J. C. Walker	Bangor	40	19	2	8	..	....	5	...	64	..
Pine Grove	J. W. Crumbley	J. T. Daily	Dover	37	21	16	..		10	....	..	64	4
Pine Bluff	T. A. Hancock	J. L. Rutherford	Little Warrior	39	11	3	..	1	7	....	...	47	3
Sardis	J. J. Clayton	C. B. Davis	Fenton	38	2	2	..	2	7	1	1	35	4
Guins Cove		J. F. Musgrove	Bangor	12	1	.			2	....	..	11	4
Chepultepec	J. A. May	E. P. Patterson	Oneonta	....	1	11	..	..	...	...	...	25	1
New Harmony No. 1	C. C. Hughes	A. J. Sims	Joy	...	1	4	..		....	..	...	15	..
New Harmony No. 2	F. Tidwell	G. P. Kelly	Cleveland	..	..	....	..	..	....	..	..	21	1
} Ministers reported	Ordained, 17	Licensed 7 }		1457	132	108	12	20	148	34	16	1426	